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PART - II

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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

CHIEF SECRETARIAT

(AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS)

(G.O. Ms. No. 8/Ag., Puducherry, dated 21st July 2017)

NOTIFICATION

The Lieutenant-Governor, Puducherry, is pleased to approve the proposal for implementation of the Scheme component "Distribution of Horticulture Inputs at subsidized cost to the farmers in Union territory of Puducherry for increasing production and productivity of Horticultural Crops" under the Scheme "Diversification in Agriculture through Horticulture Crops" in the Union territory of Puducherry and for the said purpose hereby notifies the guidelines for the scheme as appended.

[1033]

2. This issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department *vide* I.D. No. 3024/FC/FD/F5/A3/2017, dated 22-2-2017.

(By order)

M. SARATHI,
Deputy Secretary to Government
(Agriculture and Forests).

**GUIDELINES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF HORTICULTURE
INPUTS AT SUBSIDIZED COST TO THE FARMERS IN THE
UNION TERRITORY OF PUDUCHERRY FOR INCREASING
PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF HORTICULTURAL
CROPS**

Introduction

Agriculture including Horticulture as an entrepreneurship nowadays encourages the farmers to search for more profitable and income oriented crops. Horticulture crops are high income oriented crops. Since, the cost of Horticulture inputs especially vegetable seeds, planting materials, water soluble fertilizers, *etc.*, is usually high, cultivation of Horticulture crops involves huge investments. High cost of cultivation which is the prime factor impeding the farmers to take up Horticulture crop cultivation. To motivate the farmers to cultivate Horticulture crops coupled with new innovative technologies and further to promote the farmers to diversify from traditional paddy cultivation and take up horticulture crop cultivation and to increase the area under Horticulture crops, distribution of Horticulture inputs at subsidized rates for the cultivation of horticultural crops has been extended under the scheme "Diversification in Agriculture through Horticulture Crops" by the Agriculture Department, Government of Puducherry.

Objectives

The main objectives of this scheme are:

1. To promote the farmers to take up horticulture cultivation thereby diversifying agriculture;
2. To increase the area under Horticulture crops and improve their production potentials; and
3. To provide critical Horticulture inputs for the Horticulture cultivators both owner and tenant cultivators of Union territory of Puducherry.

I. Pattern of Assistance

Distribution of Horticulture inputs at subsidized cost as detailed hereunder:

(i) Distribution of seeds and planting materials including tissue culture plants of all horticultural crops @ 75% subsidy for general and 100% subsidy for Scheduled Caste farmers

(ii) Distribution of micro nutrients, soil amendments, plant growth regulators, organic manures including vermi compost, neem/groundnut cake, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides and bio-control agents, *etc.*, @ 75% subsidy for general and 100% subsidy for Scheduled Caste farmers.

(iii) Distribution of ornamental/flower plants, horticultural tools/implements, PP chemicals, PP equipment, copra dryers, fixing biogas unit, oil engines with accessories, electrical motor/motor pumpsets and shade nets, *etc.*, @ 50% subsidy for general and 75% subsidy for Scheduled Caste farmers

(iv) Distribution of vegetable minikits and fruit minikits worth ₹ 250 per minikit at free of cost for the Establishment of nutritional gardens in rural/urban areas.

(v) Distribution of urban horticulture kit containing vegetable seeds and seedlings, ready soil mixture, vermi compost, bio-fertilizer, Neem oil cake, *etc.*, at 75% subsidy subject to a maximum of ₹ 3,000 per kit.

(vi) Distribution of water soluble fertilizers at 90% subsidy for all categories of farmers.

(vii) Distribution of plastic crates to all categories of farmers at 50% subsidy subject to a maximum of ₹150 per plastic crate.

II. Eligibility criteria of beneficiaries

1. The assistance is open to farmers of all categories who are having land belonging to them in Union territory of Puducherry for all Horticulture crops.

2. Tenants are also eligible to receive the financial assistance by providing the authenticated proof of leased land. If, any objection is received, the Director of Agriculture may dispose of the application at his discretion upon the production of NOC from the owner.

3. The beneficiary farmer should possess the Farmer Identity Card issued by the Department of Agriculture and should attach a copy of it wherever necessary.

4. All the residents of Puducherry are eligible to receive inputs under Urban Horticulture.

III. Documents to be submitted for establishing the eligibility

(a) Revenue certificate obtained from the Office of the Revenue Department not below the rank of a Deputy Tahsildar.

(b) Photo Copy of New Farmer Identity Card/Land Document shall be enclosed.

(c) Photocopy of Aadhar Card/Ration Card and EB bill/Water bill for house owner or lease agreement for tenant in respect of beneficiary under urban Horticulture.

IV. Modalities of the Scheme

(a) The Office of the Additional Director of Agriculture (Horticulture)/Additional Director of Agriculture, Karaikal/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Mahe/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Yanam will assess the area under Horticulture crops proposed to be covered for each season viz., chithiraipattam, adipattam, thaipattam and accordingly work out the quantity of various Horticulture inputs required to be distributed.

(b) Upon obtaining administrative approval of the Director (Agriculture) or Secretary to Government (Agriculture) for distribution of Horticulture implements at subsidized rate, the Office of the Additional Director of Agriculture (Horticulture)/Additional Director of Agriculture, Karaikal/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Mahe/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Yanam will place indent with M/s. PASIC/PKKVK as the case may be and request to stock the indented items in the respective depot.

(c) The procurement of Horticulture inputs should be made from M/s. National Seed Corporation Limited, Chennai, a Government of India undertaking having its registered office at New Delhi and Regional Office at Chennai. However, in the event of non-availability

of Horticulture inputs with the NSC, the existing purchase procedure by following the due procedure and the system of distribution of Horticulture inputs may be continued through PASIC/PKKVK.

(d) The Department of Agriculture will make publicity through Mass Media and Uzhavar Udhaviagams/Official website and create awareness among the farmers about the distribution of Horticulture inputs at subsidized cost. To avail this subsidy, the farmers in Puducherry Union Territory would be advised to submit the application to the Office of the Additional Director of Agriculture (Horticulture)/ Additional Director of Agriculture, Karaikal/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Mahe/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Yanam.

(e) On receipt of the application, entries will be made in the Application receipt register and a seniority number assigned to the applicant. Inspections of field will be conducted by the Agricultural Officer (Horticulture) concerned assisted by Demonstration Assistant to assess the preparedness in cultivation of Horticulture crops and extent to be cultivated in case of distribution of vegetable seeds and planting materials and stage and condition of crop in case of other Horticulture inputs like neemcake, compost, water soluble fertilizers, tools and implements, plant protection chemicals, *etc.*

(f) Depending up on the size of the holding, preparedness in cultivation of Horticulture crops, stage and condition of crop, the quantity of inputs to be distributed will be calculated. Permits for distribution of Horticulture inputs at subsidized cost will be issued by the Agricultural Officer in-charge on the recommendation of field level extension functionary. The subsidized inputs will be issued on seniority basis and based on the availability of indented inputs and requirement.

(g) After stocking of indented Horticulture inputs at the outlets of M/s. PASIC/PKKVK, permits for distribution of Horticulture inputs will be issued to the farmers based on their eligibility and requirement.

(h) The Joint Director of Agriculture (MCP), Deputy Director of Agriculture (Horticulture) in respect of Puducherry/Joint Director of Agriculture/Deputy Director of Agriculture concerned in respect of Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam will also conduct verification/inspection to counter-check the recommendation of the Agricultural Officer (Horticulture).

(i) The Agricultural Officer concerned, on recommendation of Deputy Director of Agriculture/Joint Director of Agriculture, shall get the approval of list of farmers to whom Horticulture inputs worth more than ₹ 5,000 required to be distributed from the Additional Director of Agriculture (Horticulture) in Puducherry and Additional Director of Agriculture, Karaikal, in Karaikal and Deputy Director of Agriculture in Yanam and Mahe before issuing the permits for distribution of Horticulture inputs.

(j) Only after the procurement and distribution of indented Horticulture inputs, the invoice obtained from M/s. PASIC/PKKVK will be settled on actual basis to the extent of subsidy extended to each inputs upon obtaining necessary expenditure sanction.

V. Monitoring/Evaluation

The project shall be monitored by the concerned Deputy Director of Agriculture (Horticulture)/Joint Director of Agriculture (MCP). Evaluation and Appraisal report to be made by the deputed officers periodically on the effectiveness of the scheme and any modifications to the Scheme shall be made with the approval of the Government.

VI. Interpretation and doubts

If any doubt arises in the matter of implementation of the Scheme, the decision of the Secretary to Government (Agriculture) shall be the final.

M. SARATHI,
Deputy Secretary to Government
(Agriculture and Forests).

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